

The Cystic Fibrosis Center
SAINT VINCENTS HOSPITAL AND MEDICAL CENTER OF NEW YORK
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November 18, 1999

Rabbi Joseph Eckstein
D'or Yeshorim
429 Wythe Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11211

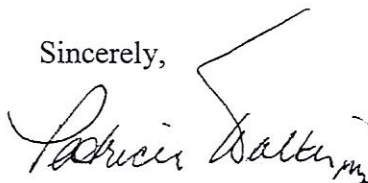
Dear Rabbi Eckstein:


Many thanks to you and the staff of D'or Yeshorim for your tireless efforts to reduce the likelihood that children will have life-shortening genetic conditions such as cystic fibrosis (CF). The Cystic Fibrosis Center of Excellence at Saint Vincents has been caring for patients with CF for over 20 years. Since 1995, when CF was added to the panel of conditions screened by D'or Yeshorim, we have noted a decrease in the numbers of new babies from religious families referred to our Center for diagnosis and care. The Jewish community can take great comfort in knowing that with the help of D'or Yeshorim, they have done everything possible to prevent their children from being born with a genetic condition that could have been averted through premarital testing.

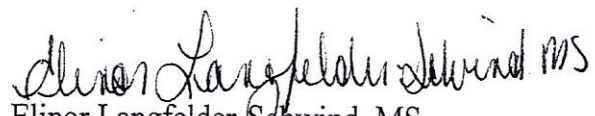
D'or Yeshorim is constantly seeking ways to improve its methods and abilities to detect carriers of genetic conditions. We recently worked with your organization and with a large family, coordinating research at three medical institutions, to identify a new genetic mutation that will benefit hundreds of potential carriers and prevent at-risk marriages.

You also have been a compassionate source of information and guidance for families that are affected by genetic conditions, helping them to obtain proper medical care and support. We have the privilege of caring for patients with cystic fibrosis from all over the world, including Brooklyn, Munsee and Israel, and look forward to the day when this disease is no longer an issue of concern.

Sincerely,


Patricia Walker, M.D.
Co-Director


Maria Berdella, M.D.
Co-Director


Elinor Langfelder-Schwind, MS
Genetic Counselor